

STATE OF LOUISIANA
M.J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR.
PROCLAMATION

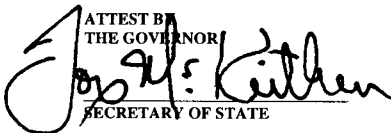
- WHEREAS,** the recurring drought and high incidence of forest and woodland fires pose a hazard to the state of Louisiana; and
- WHEREAS,** many acres of forests and woodlands have been burned and damages resulting from the extreme fires are severe and pose an immediate danger to residents in the affected areas; and
- WHEREAS,** the situation requires immediate emergency action to minimize the effects of the extreme fires to the lives and the property of residents in these areas; and,
- WHEREAS,** by virtue of this proclamation and the powers vested in me, all persons, firms, partnerships, corporations, state and local governmental agencies or other entities are prohibited from setting fire to any forest, fields, crops, grass, woods, cultivated lands, wild lands or marshes, or to build or light a campfire, bonfire, or other fire, or burn crops, stubble, grass, debris, trash or other material, of whatever nature, in any of the parishes included in this proclamation, except as authorized in this proclamation. The setting of fire for the purposes of fire suppression by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Office of Forestry, its agents or authorized fire fighting organizations is exempted from this proclamation. Prescribed burning of sugar cane, for purpose of harvesting the sugar cane, may be conducted, but only in strict conformity with the requirements of R.S. 3:17, including a certified Prescribed Burn Manager and in accordance with a defined burn management plan; and,
- WHEREAS,** this prohibition against burning declared in this proclamation shall continue until the extreme fire danger is reduced, as determined by the Louisiana Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry, in conjunction with the State Fire Marshal. The Commissioner, in conjunction with the State Fire Marshal, may recommend additional parishes to be included in the proclamation or the removal of individual parishes from the effect of this proclamation as conditions change, without removing all parishes; and,
- WHEREAS,** any person or entity violating this proclamation or any order, rule, or regulation promulgated pursuant to the Louisiana Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act may be criminally prosecuted. Additionally, any such person or entity may be subject to criminal prosecution under all existing and applicable laws of the state of Louisiana if the actions of such individual or entity violate any of these criminal laws; and,
- WHEREAS,** the state of Louisiana recognizes that the response to reduce the effects of this emergency has far exceeded the capabilities of local government.

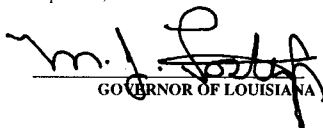
NOW, THEREFORE, I, M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr., Governor of the state of Louisiana, under the authority of the Louisiana Assistance and Disaster Act of 1993 (as amended), having verbally proclaimed on September 5, 2000, the existence of an emergency, do hereby confirm that a State of Emergency exists within the parishes of

ACADIA, ALLEN, AVOYELLES, BEAUREGARD, BIENVILLE, BOSSIER, CADDO, CALCASIEU, CALDWELL, CAMERON, CATAHOULA, CLAIBORNE, CONCORDIA, DESOTO, EAST CARROLL, EVANGELINE, FRANKLIN, GRANT, JEFFERSON DAVIS, LASALLE, LINCOLN, JACKSON, MADISON, MOREHOUSE, NATCHITOCHES, OUACHITA, POINTE COUPEE, RAPIDES, RED RIVER, RICHLAND, SABINE, ST. LANDRY, TENSAS, UNION, VERMILION, VERNON, WEBSTER, WEST CARROLL, AND WINN.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the city of Baton Rouge, on this 6th day of September, 2000.



ATTEST BY
THE GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE


GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA